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SRI C. KUNHIRAMA KURUP :—" The Kuttiyadi-Wynaad road being the shortest route connecting Wynaad and Kurumbranad taluks and in view of the large volume of traffic along this route, will the Government give priority to this scheme and take it up immediately? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Under the Planning Commission's Five-Year Plan, for the period 1951–56, Rs. 238 lakhs have been provided for and that sum is not adequate even for the works already sanctioned. So, it will not be possible for this work to be included in that and it is also not possible to take up the work under the Post-War Development Plan. It will not also be possible for the Malabar District Board to take up new works from its funds as the financial position of the district board under the general account is not satisfactory. But, as I have already pointed out, this work can be taken up in the second quinquennium of Post-War Road Development only."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" In view of the fact that the district boards are bankrupt, that they are financially unsound and that the roads constructed go into disuse on account of lack of finance with them, will the Government consider the desirability of shifting the whole responsibility of maintenance and construction of roads to the Highways Department? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" It is a question of policy which the Government will certainly be going into shortly."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Wynaad and Kuttiyadi are backward areas and full of natural wealth, and it will be proper that high priority should be given to opening up and exploiting those areas. In view of these special considerations, would the Government manage to see that funds are found for this small scheme of construction of a road between Kuttiyadi and Wynaad? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Certainly, we will consider that aspect of the question if our finances permit."

Special Honorary Presidency Magistrates' Courts in the City.

* 359 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM (on behalf of Sri S. Deivasigamany) : Will the Hon. the Minister ror Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) the present number of the Special Honorary Presidency Magistrates' Courts in the City of Madras; and

(*b*) whether any of the Honorary Presidency Magistrates in the City receive any kind of allowances?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" (*a*) There are five Special Honorary Presidency Magistrates'

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Courts in the City, (1) at Egmore, (2) at Georgetown, (3) Railway Court at Egmore Station, (4) Railway Court at Central Station and (5) Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Court at Vepery.

"(*b*) The two Magistrates presiding over the Railway Courts at Egmore and Central Stations are paid a conveyance allowance of Rs. 80 per mensem by the Railway authorities. The other magistrates are not paid any kind of allowances."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" May we know why this kind of discrimination is shown in the matter of granting travelling allowance though it is the railway authorities that are paying the Special Presidency Magistrates? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" Each individual case is considered and action taken. There is no preferential treatment given to anybody."

SRI V. GOPALA GOUNDER :—" Is this concession of granting allowances extended to the Railway Magistrates in the mufassal? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" I have answered that no such allowances are paid."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" ஸ்பெஷல் ஆனரரி பிரிசிடென்சி மாஜிஸ்திரேட் கோர்ட்டில் தலைமை வகிக்கும் மாஜிஸ்திரேட்டுகள் தங்களுக்கு போக்குவரத்து செலவு வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டால் அவர்களுக்கு கொடுப்பதற்கு சர்க்கார் யோசனை பண்ணுமா ? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" A separate question may be put."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" How many Honorary Presidency Magistrates are there in the City of Madras? In the matter of selection to these posts, since they are honorary, is the principle of communal rotation being observed? In view of my practical experience as a Magistrate sometime ago, may I bring it to the notice of the Hon. Minister that per day not less than 500 cases are disposed of in a slipshod manner? Therefore, will the Government consider the desirability of limiting the number of cases to be decided per day by these not well informed Magistrates? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" As regards the first part of the question, there are nine Special Honorary Magistrates. As regards the second part of the question, I have no reason to believe that the allegations made by the hon. Member are true."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Was the slipshod manner of handling cases most prevalent during the period of office of the hon. Member Sri Vinayakam as Honorary Magistrate? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" I am not aware of it, Sir."